REMARKS

Claims 1 – 31 were previously pending. As noted above, claims 1, 9, 16, and 24 have been amended. Support for these amendments may be found throughout the Specification. No claims have been added or canceled. Thus, claims 1 – 31 remain pending and subject to examination.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application based on the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Claims 1 – 31 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 1 – 31 are also rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

With respect to the §112, first paragraph rejections, the Examiner asserts that there is "no description and/or support in the specification relating to the newly recited 'the message-based application performing a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device'." The Examiner further asserts that the "the specification discloses 'the message application(s) 112 receive(s) and processes it accordingly'." Without admitting the propriety of the rejection, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 9, 16, and 24 to recite that the processor is configured to "send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to provide a service associated with the message-based application." Support for this amendment may be found, for example, in paragraphs [0017], [0019], and [0041] - [0047] of the pending application as published (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2008/0119210).

With respect to the § 112, second paragraph rejection, the Examiner asserts that the recitation of "data network addresses for message-based applications" is inaccurate as data network addresses are conventionally used for devices and not applications. However, as described, for example, in paragraphs [0041] – [0047] of the pending application as published, an application provider can request that messages addressed to a number or range of NANP numbers assigned to the application provider be routed to a particular application server that

provides access to the applications. Thus, the applications are first associated with a NANP number (a logical routing address), and can be mapped to a physical or logical data network address. As such, the application is also associated with a data network address.

Therefore, based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1 – 31 under 35 USC § 112.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 1 – 31 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Hatch (US Patent No. 7,116,994) in view of Widger (US Patent No. 7,068,772). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to a messaging address system for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications. The system comprises a communications network and a message center wherein the message center system comprises a processor configured to automatically associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications, said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan. The processor is further configured to receive a mobile-originated message generated by a subscriber wireless device, said mobile-originated message including a destination address, formatted in accordance with the standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan, for a message based application. The processor is further configured to translate said mobile originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address, and send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to provide a service associated with the message-based application. Neither Hatch nor Widger, alone or in combination with each other, discloses or suggests this combination of features.

Hatch is directed to a service for selectively redirecting text message to email addresses. The Examiner correctly acknowledges on page 4 of the Office Action that Hatch does not disclose that the destination address is formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan, and relies on Widger to overcome this deficiency. Widger is directed to methods for routing calls using per call metered networks. In Widger, a caller places

a call to a subscriber. The call is routed to a controller that stores the subscriber's phone number. The controller may then route the call to an available outbound 1-800 line. *See*, Widger, column 3, line 55 – column 4, lines 20. In Widger, the caller initiated call, which the Examiner appears to equate with the claimed mobile-originated message, does not include a destination address formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan, as recited in claim 1. Rather, the caller enters a specific phone number associated with the subscriber, and the call is then routed by a controller via a 1-800 line. Thus, Widger fails to overcome the acknowledged deficiencies of Hatch. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over the Hatch and Widger.

Independent claims 9, 16, and 24 include features similar to those described above in reference to claim 1. As such, these claims are also patentable over the cited references at least for reasons similar to those provided in reference to claim 1. Claims 2 – 8, 10 – 15, 17 – 23, and 25 – 31 each depend from one of the patentable independent claims. As such, these claims are also patentable over the cited references at least by virtue of this dependency as well as the individual features each claim recites.

Therefore, based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1 – 31 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hatch in view of Widger.
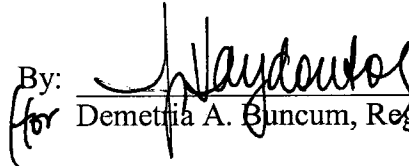
CONCLUSION

In light of the remarks contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 22, 2010

By: _~Jlaydouto~ Reg. No. 43,313_
for Demetria A. Buncum, Reg. No. 58,848

Customer Number 004372
Arent Fox LLP
1050 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036-5339
Telephone: (202) 857-6000
Facsimile: (202) 638-4810